

Status of the CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An article for use with spherical vibration-control elements, wherein said article comprises:

a plate, wherein said plate has a first major surface and a second major surface, and further wherein: said first major surface comprises having a number, n , of spaced wells arranged in a two-dimensional array, wherein:

(i) said two-dimensional array comprises at least two rows of said spaced wells with a minimum of three wells in each row; and

(ii) said wells are suitably sized so that when they a well receives said spherical vibration control element[[s]], contact between said vibration control element and said first major surface contacts said plate occurs at substantially every point along said circular opening a perimeter of said well.

2. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein said number, n , is between 8 and 25, inclusive.

3. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1 further comprising a top plate, wherein, in use with said vibration-control elements, said top plate is disposed above said plate, proximal to said first major surface and distal to said second major surface plurality of wells.

4. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 3 further comprising a skirt, wherein said skirt depends from a marginal region of said top plate, and further wherein said skirt extends toward said plate.

5. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1 wherein said circular perimeter is circular and has a diameter in the range of between about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

6. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 3 wherein said top plate and said plate have the same shape, and further wherein said top plate is larger than said plate such that said plate fits within an area defined by said skirt.

7. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 1 wherein said plate is acrylic.

8. (Original) The article of claim 3 wherein said top plate is acrylic.

9. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of said vibration-control elements, wherein, in use of said article, said vibration control elements are disposed in said wells.

10. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 3 further comprising a plurality of said vibration control elements, wherein, in use of said article, when said vibration-control elements are disposed in said wells, and abut a major surface of said top plate they do not abut a bottom of said wells.

11. (Original) The article of claim 9 wherein there are fewer of said vibration-control elements than said n wells.

12. (Original) The article of claim 9 wherein said vibration-control elements are balls.

13. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein said balls are resilient.

14. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein said balls are selected from the group consisting of racquet balls, hand balls, paddle balls and squash balls.

15. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a plate, wherein said plate comprises a first plurality of spaced wells arranged in a two-dimensional array[[,]] wherein each of said wells defines a circular opening in a first major surface of said plate; and

a second plurality of vibration-control elements, wherein said vibration-control elements are received by some but not all of said wells, one vibration-control element to a well.

16. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15 further comprising a top plate, wherein said top plate is disposed above said plate and wherein said vibration-control elements are sandwiched between said plate and said top plate.

17. (Original) The article of claim 15 wherein said vibration-control elements are balls.

18. (Original) The article of claim 17 wherein said balls are resilient.

19. (Original) The article of claim 18 wherein said balls are selected from the group consisting of racquet balls, hand balls, paddle balls and squash balls.

20. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15 wherein said plate comprises acrylic and wherein said vibration-control elements are resilient balls.

21. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a bottom plate, wherein said bottom plate comprises a plurality of spaced wells
arranged in a two-dimensional array in a first major surface thereof;
a plurality of resilient balls, wherein said resilient balls are received by some but not all of said wells; and
a top plate, wherein said top plate is disposed on said resilient balls, and wherein a surface of said top plate that abuts said resilient balls is planar and does not include wells.

22. (Original) The article of claim 21 wherein said bottom plate comprises acrylic and wherein said top plate comprises acrylic.

23. (Currently Amended) An article for vibration control, wherein said article comprises a plate, wherein:

said plate has a plurality of wells that are disposed in a first major surface thereof,
wherein said wells are arranged in a two-dimensional array; and
each of said wells defines a circular opening in said first major surface of said plate, wherein said circular opening is suitable for receiving balls that have a diameter in a range of about ½ inch to 1¼ inches, inclusive, wherein, when received by a well, said ball does not contact a bottom of said well.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

providing a bottom plate, ~~wherein said bottom plate has more than four spaced wells in a major surface thereof; and;~~

forming wells in said bottom plate, wherein said wells are arranged in a two-dimensional array, and wherein said two-dimensional array has at least two rows of said wells, and further wherein each said rows comprises at least three wells; and

disposing at least three vibration-control elements in at least three of said wells, but not in all of said wells and in more than one of said rows, with one vibration-control element to a corresponding well.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising disposing a top plate on said vibration-control elements.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein disposing said plurality of vibration-control elements further comprises selecting a property of said plurality of vibration-control elements as a function of a property of an audio component or video component that is to be supported by said vibration control elements.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein said property of said vibration-control elements is its relative degree of resilience.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein said property of said vibration-control elements is its capacity to support weight.

31. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein said property of said audio component is selected from the group consisting of the weight of said audio component and type of audio component.

32. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein said vibration-control elements are balls.